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**PETITION FILING INSTRUCTIONS
2008 GENERAL ELECTION
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

The New Jersey Division of Elections accepts petitions on behalf of the Office of the Attorney General, which serves as the Chief Election Official of the State of New Jersey. Set forth below are qualifications for candidacy along with an overview of the statutory requirements for submitting petitions to conform with Title 19, the Election Laws of New Jersey.

Candidate petitions may be filed in person or mailed, but must be received by the deadline date, on or before 4:00 pm on Tuesday, June 3, 2008.

Pursuant to the Constitution of the United States, Article 1, Section 2, to qualify as a candidate for the office of United States House of Representatives, you must meet the following qualifications:

- ✓shall have attained the age of 25 years
- ✓a United States Citizen for seven years
- ✓a resident of New Jersey

Each candidate should read and follow petition instructions carefully in order to ensure that the petition is accepted for filing for the office of United States House of Representatives.

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:13-3 et seq., petitions must meet the following requirements:

1. Must be signed by at least 100 voters in the Congressional District. (N.J.S.A. 19:13-5)
2. Candidate's name and address must appear on each petition. (N.J.S.A. 19:13-4)
3. The circulator(s) of the petition must sign the circulator portion of the petition. Pursuant to the Consent Order entered into in the matter of the Green Party, et als. v. State of New Jersey, et als., Docket No. MER-C-125-06 (Law Div. 2007), the circulator does not have to be a legally qualified voter of the district in which the candidate is seeking office. Any circulator who is not qualified to be a signer must, however, be a New Jersey resident and provide his or her address on the petition in the designated location.
4. The affidavit of the person who circulates the candidate petition and also serves as witness to the petition signatures, is known as the circulator/witness. This person must also sign on page 13 under "signature of witness." (N.J.S.A. 19:13-7)
5. Candidate must sign a "certificate of acceptance" and an "oath of allegiance."(N.J.S.A. 19:13-8)

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6. Candidate must insert the designation/slogan which must not exceed three words. "The petition shall state in not more than three words the designation of the party principles which the candidates therein named represent, but such designation shall not contain the designation name, derivative, or any part thereof as a noun or an adjective of any political party entitled to participate in the primary election." (N.J.S.A. 19:13-4)

The person submitting a petition will be asked to provide the day and evening telephone numbers of the candidate. This is in the event that someone file a challenge to the candidate petition. The daytime phone number will also be used for public information purposes, i.e., press/citizen inquiry.

This information sheet is not meant to encompass all of the statutory and constitutional requirements for filing petitions, but is to be used only as a guide. If you have any questions, please contact the New Jersey Division of Elections at (609) 292-3760.

Completed candidate petitions must be delivered to:

**New Jersey Division of Elections
44 South Clinton Avenue
7th Floor, East
P.O. Box 304
Trenton, NJ 08625-0304**